

County Exercise Plans for Union Station Shooter

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After a year of planning efforts LACDMH staff, along with many Los Angeles County departments, the City of Los Angeles and organizations and agencies connected to Los Angeles Union Station, participated in the full-scale 2016 “Guardian” exercise, simulating an active-shooter incident. Over 80,000 travelers go through the busy hub each day to reach their destinations.

LACDMH was able to test our ability to assist in the incident with a Crisis Response Team—triaging victims and providing and coordinating services for these victims. The scenario tested recovery efforts after an active-shooter Incident. This was the first time LA’s Union Station has ever conducted an exercise to this magnitude. Everyone who participated walked away with a list of valuable “lessons learned.” LACDMH’s Disaster Services Unit will now take those lessons learned and develop response plans for effective response for future incidents, as was depicted in the scenario.



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LA City Emergency Operations Center opened a Joint Information Center with communications staff for the exercise to produce a statement and messaging similar to what would happen in a real incident.

